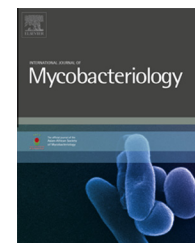


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Detection of an integrase gene in clinical isolates of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*

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ARTICLE INFO

Article history:

Received 20 November 2014

Accepted 23 November 2014

Available online 6 January 2015

Keywords:

Mycobacterium tuberculosis

Clinical isolates

Integrase gene

ABSTRACT

Introduction: Drug resistance in *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* (MTB) is caused by many mechanisms. Integrons are genetic units characterized by their ability to capture and incorporate bacterial genomes by recombination and may contain resistance-related genes. Integrons have an integrase gene (*int*). The aim of this work is to report a new integrase gene that was not reported in the GeneBank earlier.

Materials and methods: Susceptible, drug-resistant clinical isolates and H37Rv strain underwent DNA extraction. Integron of *Mycobacterium abscessus* structure was used as a template. The needed primers were designed for a walking method in polymerase chain reaction (PCR). Resulted fragments were sequenced for confirmation of the fragments.

Results: Results of the sequencing method revealed that the newfound integrase is not in the GeneBank and was not reported earlier. Its sequence differed from former reported integrases like *PhiRv1* integrase (Rv2659c), RVBD_2646 integrase, Rv2309c, CCDC5180_0965 integrase, Rv2894c, etc.

Conclusion: This study reports a novel integrase. These studies need to be continued for probable relationship between the whole fragment and resistance genes in the bacterium.

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<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ijmyco.2014.11.032>

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